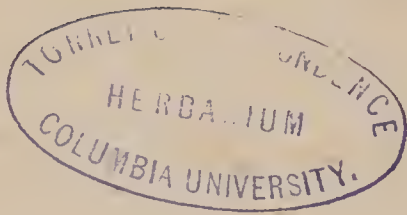


Address

Philadelphia, May 26th

To Dr. Torrey



Sir,

The package contains a few lichens for your son, which you will remember ordering, and also a parcel for Rev. J. F. Holton; I have not that gentleman's address and must beg you as a favor to give it to him or transmit it according to your convenience. I hope to be able to send you more lichens at a future time as I deem these by no means an equivalent. Neither you nor Mr. Holton fixed any time as to when these Cryptogamia were to be sent or ~~perhaps~~ you would have received them sooner.

I should have had great pleasure in writing to you on matters of science, but ~~it~~ such is the state of the world, that it is my painful duty to introduce topics less pleasing. I have been informed by a friend of mine that you felt yourself insulted by my last letter about Drummond's Mosses, and ~~so~~ that ~~under~~ <sup>through</sup> the influence of those feelings you have not answered my letter. When my friend told me ~~of~~ this, and that I had lost your good opinion, I was not surprised, in fact I felt no emotion whatever. I will tell you if possible the causes that induced this apathy under such painful circumstances.

James P. James, of Philadelphia, told me that you had written to him, about myself, and after treating <sup>me</sup> with courtesy and kindness, ~~thence~~ for more than a year, - then, for the first time referred to an unhappy mis-understanding that had occurred between myself and the Curators of the Herbarium of the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia; - assigning that as his reason for <sup>refusing</sup> ~~using~~ his friendly word with you. I have however written to him on his ~~previous~~ want of candour, and shown him that he has acted improperly in leading me to consider him a friend and speak of him as such to others, ~~whereas he was my friend~~ thus inducing me to place myself in an unfavorable position with others who would be my friends, and who think proper to write to him, as a reference. What James has said to you I do not know, but it is certain that if he mentioned my name in his



reply, to your communication, he would say nothing favorable. ~~When~~  
 soon as I learned that you had written to James I felt sure that  
 he would try to injure me, and also that you would believe what he  
 said, so that it was no news to learn that ~~you~~ I had lost ~~your~~ good  
 opinion, ~~I~~ and as I ~~was~~ feel that in writing that letter to you  
 no insult was intended but every feeling of respect was cherished  
 and have yet to be convinced ~~as shown~~ of the ~~inappropriateness~~ of that  
 request, I believe you are unjustly offended. I believe this is a  
 correct analysis of this feeling of ~~apathy~~ which I at present  
 cherish ~~as the~~ when I think of having incurred your displeasure.  
 We do not care for the displeasure of one who is to us a comparative  
 stranger if we both believe and feel that he is unjustly displeased.

I am also in the dark as to whether you have heard of transaction with the Curators of the Herbarium at the Academy. "Men see a little, presume a great deal more, and so jump to a conclusion," I believe Locke somewhere says. It is more than probable that you have heard of that matter, and as you have formed your own opinion, ~~it is~~ you will not alter it, and anything that the accused can say ~~against~~ ~~his~~ ~~case~~ will be as a feather, - will not weigh with you. Or am I to regard you despite of the unfavorable reports that you have heard as having the lingering spark of feeling left in your heart for me. You will hear what I have to say. Then my pen shall write nothing but the truth, for <sup>to</sup> ~~with~~ you surely I may freely and candidly tell all.

It is about 3 weeks since I held conversation with Dr. Briggs, one of the Curators about an event which occurred more than a year ago, and of which I feel certain he never wishes to be reminded again, and he told truly and candidly, what the opinion of the Curators really was. I will give you that opinion, the circumstances which led them to adopt it, and then my own defence and just reason for feeling myself to have been most unjustly and cruelly injured.

The opinion of the Curators is that ~~he~~ having been privileged to  
 examine the herbarium, I removed from it plants without their permis-  
 sion. That on being told of my fault, I returned part but not the  
 whole of them. The number removed is not known, it may have been  
 large, it may have been small.